Steps to open more old age homes

3000. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to create more old age homes to cater to the rapidly increasing population of elderly persons in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise;

(c) the decisive role played by NGOs in this regard; and

(d) the financial assistance extended to the NGOs by Government to run such homes during the last five years, NGOs-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) This Ministry is supporting about 331 old homes in the country. Apart from this, state, local government and non-governmental organizations are also supporting homes for the elderly people. Some are funded through private initiative also. Most of the elderly persons have family support and income and it is only those who are without such support and are in indigent circumstances who avail or need facilities in these homes.

(d) The information is given in the Annexure.

[See Appendix 193, Annexure No. 18]

Revival of IISCO

3001. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether SAIL Management had sought extension of time from BIFR till 31st January, 2002, for submission of revival scheme of IISCO which has been rejected by BIFR;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to expedite revival of IISCO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (c) BIFR has not agreed to the request of SAIL for extension of time upto 31st January, 2002 for submission of revival proposal for Indian Iron & Steel Co. (IISCO). However, the issue would be raised by SAIL during the hearing of BIFR in September, 2001.

(d) With a view to revive IISCO and ensure its future viability, Government had allowed SAIL to convert IISCO into a joint venture. Accordingly, SAIL had invited suitable parties to express their interest in such a joint venture. Three companies were shortlisted. However, offers of two of them were not acceptable to SAIL, while offer of one company is being currently examined. Due to delay in response for disinvestment, SAIL has not been able to submit any revival plan for the company, as yet.

Steel Production by PSUs

† 3002. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Private Sector Undertakings are manufacturing steel;

(b) if so, the numbers and names of such Private Sector Undertakings;

(c) the average annual production of steel by these Undertakings; and

(d) the percentage of steel production in comparison to the total production capacity of these Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORETRIPATHY): (a)Yes, sir.

(b) There are reportedly 691 working steel plants in the private sector in the country. The major steel plants in the Private Sector are—TISCO, Jindal Vijaynagar Steel Ltd., Essar Steel Ltd., Ispat Industries Ltd. & Lloyds Steel Industries Ltd.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Setting up of the Steel Plants in Orissa and Chhattisgarh

3003. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether govt, have a proposal to set up steel plants in Orissa and Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the locations thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.